

Appln. No. 10/646,162
Amendment dated February 27, 2006
Reply to Office Action mailed November 29, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims (deleted text being struck through and added text being underlined):

- 1 1. (Original) An alternate indicator for a component of an electronic
2 device comprising:
 - 3 an activity indicator visible from a panel of the electronic device, the
4 activity indicator configured to provide a continuous indication of the
5 presence of a first continuous operating condition associated with the
6 electronic device; and
7 an activity detection circuit coupled to the activity indicator, the
8 activity detection circuit configured to generate an activity signal when
9 detecting a second periodic operating condition associated with the
10 component, and to communicate the activity signal to the activity indicator;
11 wherein the activity indicator is interrupted from continuously
12 indicating the presence of the first continuous operating condition by the
13 activity signal, thereby producing an indication of the second periodic
14 operating condition.
- 1 2. (Previously presented) An alternate activity indicator according to
2 claim 1, wherein the first continuous operating condition includes a power-
3 on operating condition, and the second periodic condition includes a hard
4 disk drive operating condition.
- 1 3. (Original) An alternate activity indicator according to claim 1,
2 wherein the activity indicator includes a single color LED.
- 1 4. (Previously presented) An alternate activity indicator according to
2 claim 1, wherein the electronic device includes a computer system, and
3 wherein the component includes a hard disk drive.

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1 5. (Currently Amended) A computer system having an alternate
2 activity indicator comprising:

3 an indicator configured to provide illumination and being visible from
4 a front panel of the computer system, the illumination of the indicator being
5 provided in response to the presence of a first continuous operating
6 condition; ~~and~~

7 an activity detection circuit coupled to the indicator, the activity
8 detection circuit being configured to generate an activity signal indicative
9 of the presence of a second periodic operating condition associated with a
10 component of the computer system, and to communicate the activity signal
11 to the indicator;

12 wherein the indicator is configured to be interrupted from illuminating
13 in response to the presence of the first continuous operating condition by
14 the activity signal to thereby produce an indication of the second periodic
15 operating condition comprising intervals when the indicator is interrupted
16 from illuminating in response to the presence of the first continuous
17 operating condition;

18 wherein the activity indicator includes a single color LED; and
19 wherein the continuous indication by the activity indicator is
20 characterized by illumination of the activity indicator, and interruption of
21 the continuous indication of the activity indicator is characterized by
22 extinguishing the activity indicator.

1 6. (Previously presented) A computer system according to claim 5,
2 wherein the first continuous operating condition includes a power-on
3 operating condition, and the second periodic operating condition includes a
4 hard disk drive operating condition.

7. through 8. (Cancelled)

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1 9. (Currently Amended) An alternate indicator for a storage device of
2 an electronic device comprising:

3 an activity indicator on the electronic device, the activity indicator
4 being configured to provide a continuous indication of the presence of a
5 power-on operating condition of the electronic device; and

6 an activity detection circuit coupled to the activity indicator, the
7 activity detection circuit configured to generate an activity signal when
8 detecting an intermittent operating condition associated with activity by the
9 storage device, and to communicate the activity signal to the activity
10 indicator;

11 wherein the activity indicator is interrupted from continuously
12 indicating the presence of the power-on operating condition of the
13 electronic device by the activity signal to thereby produce an indication of
14 the intermittent operating condition of the storage device;

15 wherein the activity by the storage device comprises transferring data
16 to or from the storage device;

17 wherein the storage device comprises a hard disk drive; and

18 wherein the continuous indication by the activity indicator is
19 characterized by illumination of the activity indicator, and interruption of
20 the continuous indication of the activity indicator is characterized by
21 extinguishing the activity indicator.

1 10. through 13. (Cancelled)

1 14. (New) An alternate activity indicator according to claim 1,
2 wherein the activity indicator comprises a single LED.

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1 15. (New) A computer system having an alternate activity indicator
2 comprising:

3 a single indicator configured to provide illumination and being visible
4 from a front panel of the computer system, the indicator being configured to
5 illuminate in response to the presence of a power-on condition of the
6 computer system; and

7 an activity detection circuit coupled to the indicator, the activity
8 detection circuit being configured to generate an activity signal indicative
9 of the presence of input/output activity on a hard disk drive of the computer
10 system;

11 wherein the activity detection circuit is configured to communicate the
12 activity signal to the single indicator in a manner such that detection of the
13 presence of the input/output activity on the hard disk drive by the activity
14 detection circuit causes interruption periodic extinguishment of the
15 illumination of the indicator during the power-on condition of the computer
16 system.

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1 16. (New) A computer system according to claim 15, wherein the
2 activity indicator includes a single color LED.